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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,996	03/16/2004	William R. Gladney	G00011	1425
7590	11/26/2004		EXAMINER	
Neal T. Hauschild 4310 Sunbury Rd. Galena, OH 43021			CINTINS, IVARS C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1724	

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/800,996

**Applicant(s)**

GLADNEY, WILLIAM R.

**Examiner**

Ivars C. Cintins

**Art Unit**

1724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Teranishi (U.S. Patent No. 4,622,142) or Yanagihara (U.S. Patent No. 4,660,393) in view of Knauf et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,510,031). Teranishi and Yanagihara disclose water filtration devices for a clothes washing machine, which devices include a housing defining a filtration chamber, and a replaceable filter cartridge in this chamber. Accordingly, each of these primary references discloses the claimed invention with the exception of the dual filtration chamber and the separate hot and cold water inlets and outlets. Knauf et al. discloses a water filter, and teaches providing separate inlets to the filter for hot and cold water (see Fig. 3 and col. 3, lines 11-19). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the filtration device of either Teranishi or Yanagihara with separate inlets for hot and cold water, as well as separate outlets and filtration chambers for hot and cold water, in order to better control the filtration of the water supplied to the washing machine in either of these primary reference systems. Such modification is deemed to be obvious since washing machines typically include cycles which utilize only hot water, or only cold water, to wash clothing; and therefore, such separate hot and cold water inlets, outlets and filtration chambers would be capable of ensuring that the water delivered to the washing tub is adequately purified.

Claims 3, 4 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Teranishi or Yanagihara in view of Knauf et al. as applied above, and further in view of Poirier

(U.S. Patent No. 6,337,015). Each of the modified primary references discloses the claimed invention with the exception of the recited filtration materials (claims 3, 4 and 11-13) and mounting means (claims 8-10). Poirier discloses a filter for an appliance, and teaches the recited filtration materials (see col. 8, lines 13-18) and mounting means (see col. 6, lines 21-37). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the filtration device of Poirier for the filtration device of either modified primary reference, since the filtration device of Poirier is capable of filtering water in substantially the same manner as the filtration device of either modified primary reference, to produce substantially the same results. Also, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to mount this filtration device to the washing machine of either modified primary reference in the manner taught by Poirier, in order to facilitate the installation and maintenance of this filtration device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to I. Cintins whose telephone number is (571) 272-1155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Duane Smith, can be reached at (571) 272-1166.

The centralized facsimile number for the USPTO is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**Ivars C. Cintins**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 1724**

I. Cintins  
November 24, 2004